

TOWSON KIWANIS AND ROTARY CLUBS—JOINT MEETING  
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH AUDITORIUM

March 18, 1942

Towson.

**W**ITH our great Nation, which has never known defeat in war, facing possibly the darkest year in its entire history, it is well for our citizens to give deep and continuing thought to measures that might be helpful towards achieving that final victory which we *must win* to survive as a Nation.

Anyone who can be complacent over the progress of the war to date, either just doesn't understand what is going on in the world about us, or doesn't value the freedom he enjoys as did our forefathers who fought and worked unceasingly to gain and retain those freedoms for us.

If any one section of our entire Country should be concerned particularly with the wars raging on so many fronts throughout the world, it is Baltimore County, with its many important war industries, upon whose output our fighting forces all over the world are depending. For that reason, particularly; it is a source of deep satisfaction to have the privilege of being here this evening, to discuss with you the part we all may play in helping to achieve final victory.

So many of our people, it would appear, have failed to get a proper perspective on the conflict that now has engulfed almost the entire world. Be cause most of the newspaper accounts of the fighting relate to happenings thousands of miles away from our own shores, the natural attitude, and the comfortable one, unquestionably, is to console ourselves with the thought that such tragic events are too far away to concern us greatly.

It is now, before it is too late, for the people of America generally to accept the fact that *no* phase of this war is too far away to affect us. Unless we *do* come to the full appreciation of that fact quickly, and understand fully what the present world situation demands of us, we may on some not-too-distant day find ourselves exactly where France and many other once-free countries are now—at the mercy of heartless, ruthless despots to whom the rights of the individual mean less than nothing.

Human nature does not take readily to new developments or to new understandings. Our ideas of war, gained entirely from the wars of the past, have been all of one pattern. War, to us, has seemed essentially a combat in which the valor and courage and daring of one nation's fighting forces enabled them to overcome less valorous, less daring forces of another nation.

At Bunker Hill, our Colonial forces were ordered to hold their fire until they could see the whites of their foes' eyes; at New Orleans, where Andrew Jackson's men met overwhelming enemy force face to face; in the